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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL AFRICAN DIPLOMATIC POSTS PRIORITY

ALL OECD CAPITALS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMCONSUL CALGARY PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

AMCONSUL DURBAN PRIORITY

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

AMCONSUL JEDDAH PRIORITY

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LUANDA PRIORITY

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AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY RIYADH PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SANAA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE

REVIEW AUTHORITY:
EDWARD W. HOLMES

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AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY
USEC BRUSSELS PRIORITY
USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
USIA WASHDC PRIORITY 0000
SOMALIA COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
USCINCCENT MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
USCINCEUR VAIHIHGEN GE PRIORITY
USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
USCINCSOC MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY
USCINCTRANS INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL PRIORITY

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E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: OPRC, PREL, XA, US

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE - APRIL 11, 1994

1. BELOW IS GUIDANCE ON RWANDA, KENYA AND SOUTH AFRICA.

2. RWANDA

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Q. WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE EVACUATION OF AMERICANS
FROM RWANDA?

A. VIRTUALLY ALL AMERICANS ARE OUT OF RWANDA. MOST OF
THE 258 AMERICANS KNOWN TO BE IN THE COUNTRY LEFT RWANDA
IN CONVOYS COORDINATED BY HE U.S. EMBASSY IN KIGALI.
THOSE CONVOYS MADE THEIR WAY FROM KIGALI TO BUJUMBURA, THE
CAPITAL CITY OF BURUNDI. OTHER AMERICANS LEFT THE COUTNRY
BY DIFFERENT ROUTES, SOME OF THEM INTO COUNTRIES OTHER
THAN BURUNDI.

FROM BURUNDI, THOSE AMERICANS WISHING TO FLY TO NAIROBI
ARE USING PLANES PROVIDED BY THE US. AIR FORCE. TWO

AIRPLANS FLEW YESTERDAY CARRYING A TOTAL OF 142

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PASSENGERS. 112 OF THOSE PASSENGERS WERE AMERICAN, WITH THE REMAINDER BEING FROM OTHER COUNTRIES.

TODAY ONE PLANE FLEW, CARRYING 68 PASSENGERS, INCLUDING 31 AMERICAN CITIZENS. ONE PLANE REMAINS ON THE GROUND IN BUJUMBURA AND CAN CARRY ANY REMAINING AMERICANS WHO WISH TO LEAVE.

SO FAR, WE HAVE FLOWN OUT 210 PASSENGERS, 143 OF THOSE BEING AMERICANS.

Q. ARE ANY AMERICANS LEFT IN RWANDA?

A. YES. THE EMBASSY WAS IN CONTACT WITH ALL AMERICANS
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KNOWN TO BE IN RWANDA. NOT ALL AMERICANS CHOSE TO LEAVE THE COUNTRY.

SEVERAL AMERICANS REMAIN IN TOWNS CLOSE TO RWANDA'S BORDERS AND HAVE NOT YET CROSSED THE BORDER.

ONE GROUP OF 8 AMERICANS IS OUTSIDE KIGALI IN RURAL RWANDA AND THEY ARE WORKING WITH THE UN TO DETERMINE THEIR PREFERRED EXIT POINT.

IN ADDITION, SEVERAL AMERICANS ARE EMPLOYEES OF UN AGENCIES OR OF ICRC. THEY AWAIT THE EVACUATION PLANS OF THEIR ORGANIZATIONS.

TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, ALL AMERICANS REMAINING IN RWANDA ARE SAFE.

Q. WHAT HAPPENED TO AMERICANS ONCE THEY ARRIVED IN BUJUMBURA OR NAIROBI?

A. EVERYTHING POSSIBLE HAS BEEN DONE TO PROVIDE ALL AMERICANS, WHETHER US GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES OR PRIVATE CITIZENS, THE SAME TYPE OF ASSISTANCE.

IN BUJUMBURA, THE EMBASSY ESTABLISHED A REGISTRATION POINT AT A HOTEL AND RESERVED ROOMS AT THE HOTEL FOR THOSE WHO WISHED TO STAY. THE EMBASSY PROVIDED TRANSPORT TO THE

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AIRPORT AND ASSISTED WITH EVACUATION PAPERS.

ONCE IN NAIROBI ALL AMERICANS WERE MET AT THE AIRPORT AND
BUSED TO A HOTEL WHERE A CONTROL ROOM HAD BEEN
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ESTABLISHED. MEDICAL, CONSULAR AND TRAVEL SECTIONS HAD
BEEN SET UP TO HELP WITH MOVEMENT PLANS AND ASSISTANCE.

THOSE WHO DID NOT WISH TO STAY AT THE HOTEL WERE ASSISTED
WITH THEIR ONWARD TRAVEL.

Q. WHAT IS THE SITUATION ON THE GROUND IN KIGALI?

A. THE SECURITY SITUATION IN RWANDA REMAINS UNCERTAIN.
FIGHTING CONTINUES IN AREAS AROUND THE COUNTRY. THE
RWANDAN PATRIOTIC FRONT (RPF) FORCES MOVING DOWN FROM THE
NORTH ARE REPORTED TO BE NEAR KIGALI.

FRENCH AND BELGIAN FORCES ARE AT THE AIRPORT. THE UN HAS
EVACUATION FLIGHTS SCHEDULED FOR THIS EVENING, MONDAY
APRIL 11.

Q. WHAT IS THE UN DOING?

A. THERE ARE NO ONGOING PEACE TALKS BETWEEN PARTIES,
ALTHOUGH THE UN IS ATTEMPTING TO COORDINATE A 48-HOUR
TRUCE TO GO INTO EFFECT AT 6:00 P.M., LOCAL TIME, SO THAT
FOREIGN NATIONALS CAN BE EVACUATED.

SO FAR, UNAMIR COMMANDER DELLAIRE HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO
COORDINATE PEACE TALKS BETWEEN THE RPF AND THE PROVISIONAL
GOVERNMENT.

3. KENYA: THREAT AGAINST AMERICANS

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Q: THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN NAIROBI ISSUED AN ANNOUNCEMENT LAST WEEK CALLING ATTENTION TO A POSSIBLE SECURITY THREAT AGAINST THE EMBASSY AND AMERICAN CITIZENS IN KENYA. WAS THIS IN ANY WAY CONNECTED TO THE EVACUATION VIA KENYA OF AMERICANS FROM RWANDA?

A: THE EMBASSY'S ANNOUNCEMENT WAS A ROUTINE PRECAUTION IN RESPONSE TO AN ANONYMOUS THREAT. THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT THE THREAT INFORMATION RECEIVED BY OUR EMBASSY IN NAIROBI WAS IN ANY WAY RELATED TO THE SITUATION IN RWANDA. OR TO THE EVACUATION OF AMERICAN CITIZENS FROM RWANDA. ALL AMERICANS IN KENYA, INCLUDING THOSE EVACUATED FROM RWANDA, ARE CURRENTLY SAFE.

4. SOUTH AFRICA: USG SUPPORT FOR KISSINGER

Q: WHAT DO YOU HAVE ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL MEDIATION EFFORT IN SOUTH AFRICA AND HENRY KISSINGER'S INVOLVEMENT?

A: WE ARE INFORMED THAT THE ANC AND THE INKATHA FREEDOM PARTY HAVE INVITED SEVEN INDIVIDUALS, INCLUDING TWO AMERICAN CITIZENS -- DR. KISSINGER AND JUDGE HIGGINBOTHAM, TO HELP MEDIATE OUTSTANDING ISSUES BETWEEN THE PARTIES. THE DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH BOTH AND HAS PROVIDED THEM BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON ISSUES WHICH MAY BE RELEVANT TO THEIR POSSIBLE ROLES AS MEDIATORS.

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IF THE SOUTH AFRICANS DECIDE TO PROCEED WITH INTERNATIONAL MEDIATION, WE HOPE THAT IT WILL PROVE USEFUL IN RESOLVING THE DIFFERENCES THAT FUEL MUCH OF THE ONGOING VIOLENCE.

Q: WHEN WOULD THE TWO AMERICAN MEDIATORS GO TO SOUTH AFRICA?

A: YOU SHOULD CONTACT THEIR OFFICES DIRECTLY FOR SUCH INFORMATION.

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